

## STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Robert Thomas Velline, also known as Bobby Vee, was born on April 30, 1943 in Fargo, North

Dakota; and

WHEREAS: On February 2, 1959, at the age of 15, Bobby Vee took the stage in Moorhead, Minnesota after

he volunteered to replace Holly, Valens, and Richardson who were involved in a fatal

accident; and

WHEREAS: Within months of his debut, Vee and his band, The Shadows, recorded Vee's "Suzie Baby" for

Soma Records in Minneapolis, which quickly became a regional hit, and the band was signed

with Liberty Records in short succession; and

WHEREAS: Vee recorded 38 Top 100 hits, including 7 gold records from 1959 to 1970; and

WHEREAS: Vee was a skilled rhythm guitarist and songwriter, with a voice described by fellow

Minnesota great, Bob Dylan, as having "a metallic, edgy tone... as musical as a silver bell;" and

WHEREAS: Vee moved his family from Los Angeles, California to St. Cloud, Minnesota in 1982, where he

and his wife, Karen, organized annual "Rockin' Round the Clock" fundraising concerts to

provide music and arts facilities for local children; and

WHEREAS: Vee and his wife were married for more than 50 years and had four children, Jeffery, Thomas,

Robert, and Jennifer, some of whom performed with him; and

WHEREAS: Vee was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's disease in 2011, and passed away on Monday,

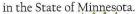
October 24, 2016 at the age of 73 in Rogers, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: The play, "Teen Idol: The Bobby Vee Story," is now showing and in its final week at St. Paul's

History Theater.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, November 2, 2016, as:

## **BOBBY VEE DAY**





IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this  $28^{\rm th}$  day of October.



